

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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R 161822Z MAR 76
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9893
INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, UK, OVIP (SHORE. PETER)

SUBJECT: UK TRADE MINISTER TO VISIT US

1. SECRETARY OF STATE FOR TRADE PETER SHORE IS PLANNING A TRI-PURPOSE VISIT TO US APRIL 13-21 TO CONSULT WITH WASHINGTON OFFICIALS. MAKE A MAJOR TRADE POLICY SPEECH AND PROMOTE BRITISH EXPORTS.
2. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS SHORE BE GIVEN SENIOR AND CORDIAL RECEPTION IN WASHINGTON. DURING THE PRESENT PERIOD OF FRICTION IN ATLANTIC TRADE RELATIONS IT IS VERY MUCH IN OUR OWN INTERESTS TO BRIEF SENIOR UK OFFICIALS ON US ECONOMIC POSITIONS. THE UK IS A MAJOR US TRADING PARTNER AND ITS POSITIONS ARE OFTEN POTENTIALLY COMPATIBLE TO OUR OWN. IT CAN MAKE ITS VOICE HEARD IN EUROPEAN COUNCILS AND INCREASE THE LIKELIHOOD THAT US CONCERNS ARE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.
3. UK EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON WILL CONTACT DEPARTMENT DIRECTLY TO ARRANGE OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS. SHORE PLANS TO ARRIVE WASHINGTON EVENING OF APRIL 13 AND WOULD LIKE TO SEE US OFFICIALS ON 14TH AND 15TH.
4. DURING WASHINGTON SEGMENT OF HIS VISIT SHORE WANTS TO MAKE A MAJOR SPEECH, PERHAPS BEFORE MID-ATLANTIC

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CLUB BUT VENUE IS NOT SET. WE UNDERSTAND HE PLANS A

BROAD. REFLECTIVE TALK THAT LOOKS AT TRADE POLICY IN ITS LONG-TERM PERSPECTIVE. STRESS APPARENTLY WILL BE ON HOW UK, AND PERHAPS EUROPEAN COMMUNITY, SEE PRESENT TRADE SCENE AND FUTURE PROSPECTS -- BUT IT IS NOT INTENDED TO BE ARGUMENTATIVE.

5. AFTER PRIVATE VISIT APRIL 16-18, SHORE PLANS TO DO TRADE PROMOTION IN LOS ANGELES ON 19-20 BEFORE RETURNING TO LONDON ON 21ST. A MORE ROUTINE SPEECH BOOSTING UK PRODUCTS IS PLANNED FOR LOS ANGELES, PERHAPS AT WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL.

ARMSTRONG

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